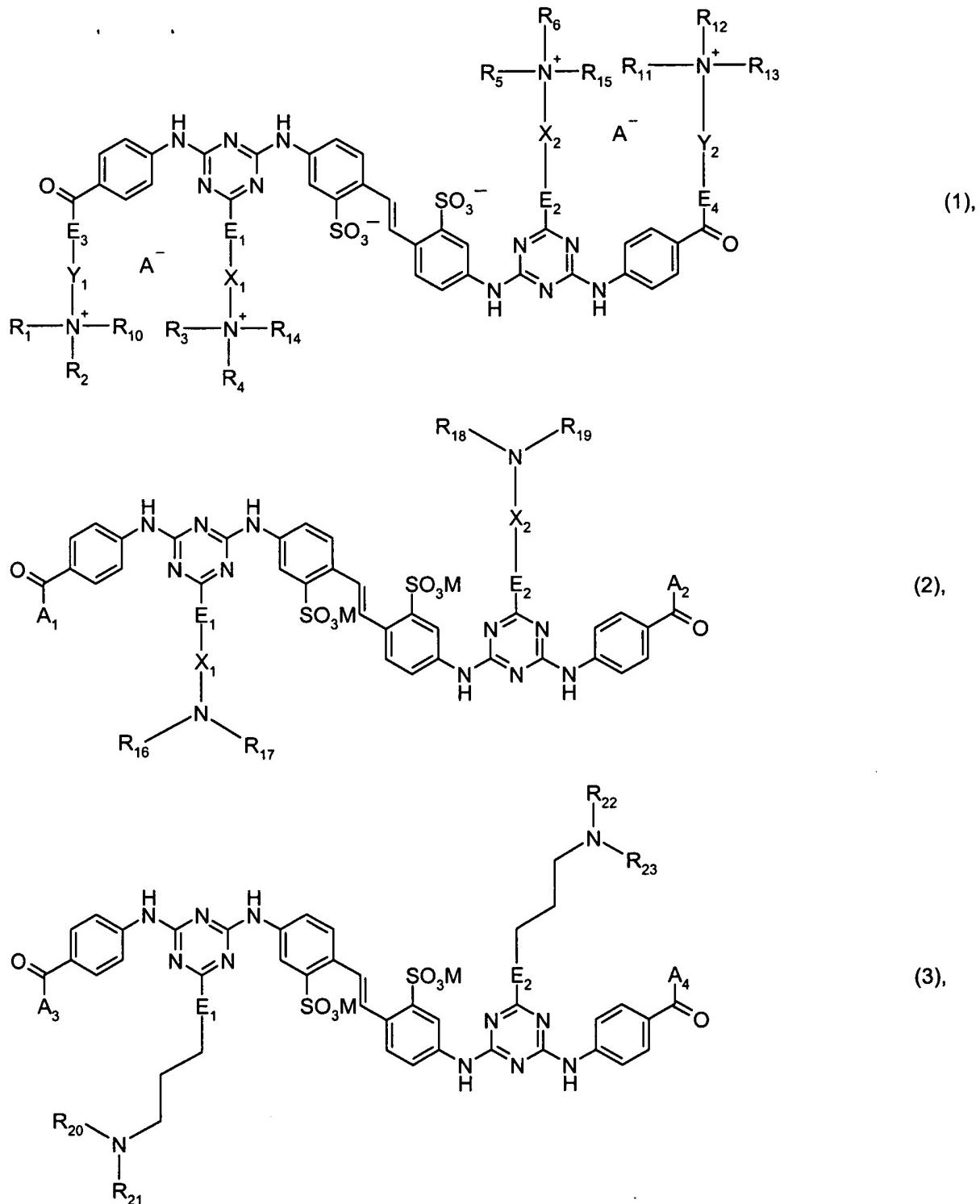


1. (original): A compound of formula (1), (2) or (3)



wherein

M is hydrogen, an alkali metal ion or an ammonium ion,  
A<sub>1</sub> is -OR<sub>1</sub>, -NHR<sub>1</sub>, N-morpholinyl or 1-piperidyl,  
A<sub>2</sub> is -OR<sub>2</sub>, -NHR<sub>2</sub>, N-morpholinyl or 1-piperidyl,  
E<sub>1</sub>, E<sub>2</sub>, E<sub>3</sub> and E<sub>4</sub> are each independently of the others -O-, -NH- or -NR<sub>9</sub>-, wherein R<sub>9</sub> together with R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> or R<sub>12</sub> forms an ethylene radical,  
R<sub>1</sub> to R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>11</sub> and R<sub>12</sub> are each independently of the others hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, aryl, aralkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl or a group of the formula -(C<sub>n</sub>H<sub>2n</sub>Y)<sub>m</sub>-R<sub>7</sub>, wherein Y is -O-, -NH-, -NR<sub>8</sub>-, -CONH- or -CONR<sub>8</sub>-, R<sub>7</sub> is hydrogen, alkyl or aryl and R<sub>8</sub> is alkyl or aryl, n is a number from 2 to 6 and m is a number from 1 to 10, or pairs of two radicals R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> or R<sub>11</sub> and R<sub>12</sub> together form a bivalent radical of the formula -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>- or, when E<sub>1</sub>, E<sub>2</sub>, E<sub>3</sub> or E<sub>4</sub> is -NR<sub>9</sub>-,  
R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> or R<sub>12</sub> together with R<sub>9</sub> forms an ethylene radical,  
R<sub>10</sub>, R<sub>13</sub>, R<sub>14</sub> and R<sub>15</sub> are each independently of the others alkyl, alkenyl, aryl or aralkyl,  
X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> are each independently of the other 1,2-cyclohexanediyI, a group of the formula -(C<sub>n</sub>H<sub>2n</sub>)<sub>m</sub>- or a group of the formula -(C<sub>n</sub>H<sub>2n</sub>Y)<sub>m</sub>-, wherein Y is -O-, -NH-, -NR<sub>8</sub>-, -CONH- or -CONR<sub>8</sub>- and R<sub>8</sub> is alkyl or aryl, n is a number from 2 to 6 and m is a number from 1 to 10,  
Y<sub>1</sub> and Y<sub>2</sub> are each independently of the other 1,2-cyclohexanediyI, a group of the formula -(C<sub>n</sub>H<sub>2n</sub>)<sub>m</sub>- or a group of the formula -(C<sub>n</sub>H<sub>2n</sub>Y)<sub>m</sub>-, wherein Y is -O-, -NH-, -NR<sub>8</sub>-, -CONH- or -CONR<sub>8</sub>- and R<sub>8</sub> is alkyl or aryl, n is a number from 2 to 6 and m is a number from 1 to 10 and A<sup>-</sup> is a singly charged anion or the two A<sup>-</sup> form a doubly charged anion,  
R<sub>16</sub>, R<sub>17</sub>, R<sub>18</sub> and R<sub>19</sub> are each independently of the others hydrogen, 2-hydroxyethyl, 2-aminoethyl or 3-aminopropyl,  
R<sub>20</sub>, R<sub>21</sub>, R<sub>22</sub> and R<sub>23</sub> are each independently of the others alkyl, and  
A<sub>3</sub> and A<sub>4</sub> are 2-hydroxyethylamino, 3-dimethylaminopropylamino or 3-diethylaminopropylamino.

2. (original): A compound of formula (2) or (3) according to claim 1, wherein the substituents A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub>, A<sub>3</sub> and A<sub>4</sub>, E<sub>1</sub> and E<sub>2</sub>, X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>16</sub> and R<sub>18</sub>, R<sub>17</sub> and R<sub>19</sub>, R<sub>20</sub> and R<sub>22</sub> and also R<sub>21</sub> and R<sub>23</sub> are in each case identical.

3. (original): A compound of formula (1) according to claim 1, wherein the substituents E<sub>1</sub> and E<sub>2</sub>, E<sub>3</sub> and E<sub>4</sub>, X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub>, Y<sub>1</sub> and Y<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>14</sub> and R<sub>15</sub>, R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>11</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>12</sub> and also R<sub>10</sub> and R<sub>13</sub> are in each case identical.

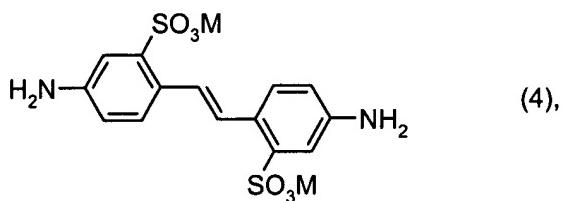
4. (original): A compound of formula (1) or (2) according to claim 1, wherein  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are ethylene or trimethylene.

5. (original): A compound of formula (3) according to claim 1, wherein  $R_{20}$ ,  $R_{21}$ ,  $R_{22}$  and  $R_{23}$  are methyl or ethyl.

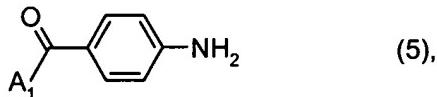
6. (currently amended): A compound of formula (2) or (3) according to ~~either~~ claim 1 or ~~claim 2~~, wherein  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$ ,  $A_3$  and  $A_4$  are amino, methylamino, 2-hydroxyethylamino, 3-dimethylaminopropylamino or ethoxy.

7. (currently amended): A compound of formula (1) according to ~~either~~ claim 1 or ~~claim 3~~, wherein  $R_1$  to  $R_6$  and  $R_{10}$  to  $R_{15}$  are methyl.

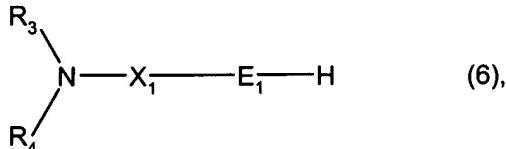
8. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (2) according to claim 1 wherein the substituents  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ ,  $A_3$  and  $A_4$ ,  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ ,  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ ,  $R_{16}$  and  $R_{18}$ ,  $R_{17}$  and  $R_{19}$ ,  $R_{20}$  and  $R_{22}$  and also  $R_{21}$  and  $R_{23}$  are in each case identical, which process comprises reacting cyanuric chloride by known methods with, in succession in any order, a compound of formula (4)



a compound of formula (5)

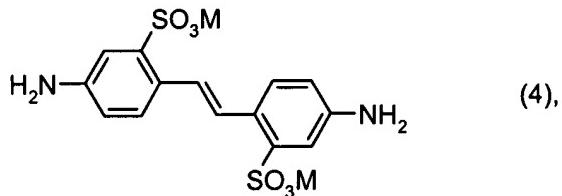


and a compound of formula (6)

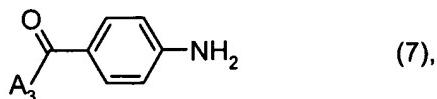


wherein M,  $A_1$ ,  $E_1$ ,  $X_1$ ,  $R_3$  and  $R_4$  are as defined in claim 1.

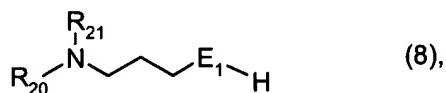
9. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (3) according to claim 1 wherein the substituents  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ ,  $A_3$  and  $A_4$ ,  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ ,  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ ,  $R_{16}$  and  $R_{18}$ ,  $R_{17}$  and  $R_{19}$ ,  $R_{20}$  and  $R_{22}$  and also  $R_{21}$  and  $R_{23}$  are in each case identical-2, which process comprises reacting cyanuric chloride by known methods with, in succession in any order, a compound of formula (4)



a compound of formula (7)



and a compound of formula (8)



wherein M,  $A_3$ ,  $E_1$ ,  $R_{20}$  and  $R_{21}$  are as defined in claim 1.

10. (currently amended): A method for the optical brightening of natural, semi-synthetic or synthetic textile fibres, which comprises treating said fibres in an aqueous medium with an effective amount Use-of a compound of formula (1), (2) or (3) according to claim 1 ~~in the optical brightening of natural, semi-synthetic or synthetic textile fibres.~~

11. (currently amended): A method for the optical brightening of paper, which comprises treating said paper fibres in an aqueous medium with an effective amount Use-of a compound of formula (1), (2) or (3) according to claim 1 ~~in the optical brightening of paper.~~

12. (original): A method of increasing the SPF of a textile fibre material, comprising the treatment of the textile fibre material with 0.05 – 3.0 % by weight, based on the weight of the textile fibre material, of one or more compounds of formula (1), (2) or (3) according to claim 1.

13. (new): A composition for brightening synthetic or natural organic materials, comprising water, a compound of formula (1), (2) or (3) according to claim 1 and optionally further adjuvants.